

**In The Matter Of:**  
*LaSheena Sipp-Lipscomb, et al. vs.*  
*Einstein Physicians Pennypack Pediatrics, et al.*

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*Frances Barlow, RN*  
*November 1, 2021*

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**Min-U-Script® with Word Index**

1 were the Barton Schmitt manual and computer manuals,  
2 is what you're saying?

3 A Yes, and -- yes.

4 Q Were there any other documents that were  
5 given to you?

6 A No. Just pediatric immunization records  
7 and things like that, but no.

8 Q Had you had any experience up through this  
9 time in the pediatric setting with testicular  
10 torsion?

11 A So before this?

12 Q Yeah, in your career.

13 A No.

14 Q Okay. I want to -- you froze for a  
15 second, and I want to make sure the record is clear.  
16 Your complete answer to that question was no?

17 A Yes. No.

18 Q Okay. I just want to make sure we have an  
19 accurate record.

20 And had you ever had -- up through  
21 that point in time, had you ever had a patient or a  
22 parent of a patient present with complaints of a  
23 swollen scrotum or scrotal pain?

24 MR. ZACK: David, just so I'm clear,

1           just to clarify, you're talking about at any  
2           time prior to her starting at Einstein in 2018?

3                       MR. JOKELSON:    Yeah.

4                       THE WITNESS:   No, not prior to  
5           starting at Einstein.

6   BY MR. JOKELSON:

7           Q       Were you aware of the gravity of those  
8           symptoms?

9           A       Yes.

10          Q       And what was your understanding about the  
11       gravity of those symptoms?

12          A       Whenever there's any testicular pain or  
13       swelling that the child or person is to be sent to  
14       the emergency room for further evaluation.

15          Q       Okay.   And why is that?

16          A       Because of the possibility of testicular  
17       torsion, which could eventually lead to the person  
18       losing the testicle.

19          Q       And that's a pretty serious circumstance.  
20                       Do you understand that?

21          A       Yes.

22          Q       When you started -- so you had three weeks  
23       of training when you started at Einstein?

24          A       Approximately, yes.

**FRANCES BARLOW, RN**

16

1           Q     And then while you were at Einstein, did  
2     you -- either at the Holland Practice or at the  
3     other Pennypack Practice, did you ever field any  
4     phone calls or telephone encounters dealing with  
5     complaints of scrotal pain or scrotal swelling?

6                     MR. ZACK:  Objection.  Just to  
7     clarify, David, you mentioned working at the  
8     Pennypack Practice.  I don't think she  
9     testified --

10                    MR. JOKELSON:  Well, she worked for  
11     the Pennypack Practice in the centralized  
12     office.

13                    MR. ZACK:  Well, that's the  
14     centralized office.

15                    MR. JOKELSON:  At any time -- excuse  
16     me, Joe?

17                    MR. ZACK:  That centralized triage  
18     covered all the practices.

19                    MR. JOKELSON:  That's correct,  
20     including Pennypack.

21     BY MR. JOKELSON:

22           Q     So at any time while you were doing --  
23     employed to do telephone triage, whether it was in  
24     the centralized office or the Holland office, do you

1 recall ever getting -- having a telephone encounter  
2 where the patient or the patient's parents were  
3 complaining of symptoms of scrotal pain or scrotal  
4 swelling?

5 A No.

6 Q As part of your training, did you review  
7 the Barton Schmitt manual?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Let me put up for you -- I'm going to  
10 share my screen. Hopefully, you'll be able to see  
11 this.

12 Ms. Barlow, is this the Barton  
13 Schmitt manual? I'm just kind of scrolling through.

14 A Yes.

15 Q And what I'm showing you is Exhibit 31,  
16 which is the cover page and title page of the book.

17 Was this book always accessible to  
18 you?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Now, when you're engaged in telephone  
21 triage at Einstein, was it their policy and  
22 procedure that you and the other telephone triagers  
23 were to write down notes of the telephone  
24 encounters, patient encounters?

1           A     Not typically, no.

2           Q     Well, that's what I'm getting at.  When  
3     you say "not typically", that leaves room for the  
4     occasional circumstance where that may happen.

5           A     Well, you try to -- I can't say 100  
6     percent.  I mean, 100 percent is 100 percent, but it  
7     would be very minimal information, just -- but most  
8     of the information was charted while the person was  
9     on the phone.

10          Q     But on occasion, on the odd occasion,  
11     there could be a circumstance where it was charted  
12     afterwards.

13                     Is that fair?

14          A     Yes.

15          Q     Okay.  So let me ask you -- let me show  
16     you what we've marked before as P-32, which is part  
17     of the Barton Schmitt manual that's labeled the User  
18     Guide.

19                     Are you familiar with the User Guide?

20          A     Yes.

21          Q     So let me go to the first page.  It talks  
22     about returning phone calls, how to prioritize them.  
23     Emergent calls are returned first.

24                     Did you understand at the time that a

1     scrotal swelling or scrotal pain was a pediatric  
2     urological emergency?

3             A     Yes.

4             Q     And it was emergencies just like that that  
5     were to be given the highest priority?

6             A     Yes.

7             Q     And let me show you on Page 8 of this User  
8     Guide -- I'm sorry, not Page 8 -- Item 8 on the User  
9     Guide.

10                         Do you see it says, Document the  
11     Call?

12             A     Yes.

13             Q     That's the documentation that we were  
14     talking about before, correct?

15             A     Yes.

16             Q     And it says -- at the end it says, Write  
17     as you go -- I'm sorry. Write as you go. Delayed  
18     documentation leads to errors and inefficiency.

19                         Do you see that?

20             A     Yes.

21             Q     Is that an accurate statement?

22             A     Yes.

23             Q     And was that the policy and procedure to  
24     be followed at Einstein?